

Effective 2/9/2015

Part 4
Duties of the Senate Standing Committee

SR3-2-401 Standing committee review required -- Exceptions.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the Senate may not pass a bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a Senate standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
 - (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;
 - (b) legislation that has been approved by a unanimous vote of an interim committee;
 - (c) the revisor's statute; or
 - (d) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislation that:
 - (i) exclusively appropriates money;
 - (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53A, Chapter 17a, Minimum School Program Act;
 - (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
 - (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

SR3-2-402 Standing committee review of legislation with a fiscal impact.

Except as provided in SR3-2-401, a standing committee in one or both houses shall review legislation before the legislation is held in the opposite house because of its fiscal impact.

SR3-2-403 Standing committee duties -- Consider legislation in a reasonable time -- Dispose of legislation.

- (1) As required by SR3-2-302(2), a chair shall ensure that legislation referred to the committee is considered by the committee within a reasonable time.
- (2) When a committee has complied with the requirements of SR3-2-302(2), a standing committee shall dispose of the legislation by:
 - (a) returning the legislation to the Senate Rules Committee;
 - (b) tabling the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-408;
 - (c) recommending the legislation to the second reading calendar; or
 - (d) referring the legislation to a different standing committee.

SR3-2-404 Motions to lift from the table, hold, amend, or substitute legislation.

In addition to the actions listed in SR3-2-403(2), a standing committee may approve one or more of the following motions on a single piece of legislation:

- (1) hold the legislation;
- (2) move to the next item on an agenda;
- (3) amend the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-406;
- (4) substitute the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-407; or
- (5) lift legislation from the table, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-408.

SR3-2-405 Consent calendar.

- (1) A standing committee may recommend that legislation in its possession be placed on the consent calendar if:
 - (a) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote, to send the legislation to the second reading calendar;
 - (b) immediately subsequent to that action, the chief sponsor requests that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar; and
 - (c) in a separate motion and vote, the committee unanimously approves the sponsor's request to place the legislation on the consent calendar instead of the second reading calendar.
- (2) If, in accordance with SR3-1-102, the Senate Rules Committee forwards a summary report from the Occupational and Professional Licensure Review Committee in conjunction with legislation referred to a standing committee, the chair shall ensure that the summary report is read orally to the committee before action is taken by the committee on the legislation that is related to the summary report.

SR3-2-406 Amending legislation -- Amendments must be germane.

- (1)
 - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair during the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to amend the legislation that is under consideration.
 - (b)
 - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to the legislation under consideration if the amendment contains 25 or fewer words.
 - (ii) Before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a proposed amendment that contains more than 25 words is printed and distributed to committee staff and to all committee members present.
- (2)
 - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
 - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in SR3-2-506.

SR3-2-407 Substitute legislation -- Substitutes must be germane.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair during the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to substitute legislation that is under consideration.
- (2)
 - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to substitute that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
 - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in SR3-2-506.

SR3-2-408 Legislation tabled in a standing committee -- Requirements.

- (1) If legislation is tabled, the chair shall list the tabled legislation on the committee agenda for the next committee meeting.

- (2) At the next committee meeting, the committee may, by a two-thirds vote, lift the tabled legislation from the table.
- (3) If a motion to lift tabled legislation is successful, the standing committee may make any motion on the legislation that is authorized under this chapter.
- (4)
 - (a) If legislation is tabled by a committee and the legislation is not lifted from the table at the committee's next meeting, the committee chair shall submit a committee report to the secretary of the Senate informing the Senate that the legislation was tabled.
 - (b) After reading the committee report on the tabled legislation, the secretary of the Senate shall send the tabled legislation to the Senate Rules Committee.

SR3-2-409 Reconsideration of action.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair, a committee member may make a motion to reconsider the committee's action on legislation if the legislation is:
 - (a) in the possession of the standing committee; and
 - (b) listed on the committee agenda as required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) A standing committee may not reconsider its action on a piece of legislation:
 - (a) more than once; and
 - (b) until the committee has considered other committee business.

SR3-2-410 Testimony may be taken under oath.

- (1) At the direction of the chair, or upon a majority vote of the committee, the testimony of a witness, presenter, or visitor who speaks to a committee may be taken under oath.
- (2) The chair or committee staff shall administer the oath.

SR3-2-411 Additional standing committee meetings.

With the president of the Senate's permission, a chair may hold a committee meeting independent of regularly scheduled committee meetings on:

- (1) a single piece of legislation; or
- (2) the subject of two or more pieces of legislation.

SR3-2-412 Closed standing committee meetings.

A standing committee may close a committee meeting in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

SR3-2-413 Prohibited from meeting while Senate is in session -- Exceptions.

- (1) A standing committee may not meet while the Senate is in session unless:
 - (a) the chair receives permission from the president to meet; or
 - (b) a majority of the Senate approves a motion for the committee to meet while the Senate is in session.
- (2) Unless a committee is authorized to meet as provided in Subsection (1), any action taken by a committee while the Senate is in session is invalid.

